DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Billing Code 8320-01

[OMB Control No. 2900-0261]

Proposed Information Collection (Application for Refund of Educational Contributions,

VA Form 22-5281)

Activity: Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on information needed to process funds of contributions made by program participants who disenroll from the Post Vietnam Era Veterans Education Program.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through
Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at www.Regulations.gov or to Nancy J.

Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M33), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail to nancy.kessinger@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0261" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through the FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 632-8924 or FAX (202) 632-8925.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501 – 21), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

<u>Title</u>: Application for Refund of Educational Contributions, VA Form 22-5281.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0261.

<u>Type of Review</u>: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Veterans and Servicemembers complete VA Form 22-5281 to request a

refund of their contributions to the Post-Vietnam Veterans Education Program.

Contributions made into the Post-Vietnam Veterans Education Program may be

refunded only after the participant has disenrolled from the program. Request for refund

of contribution prior to discharge or release from active duty will be refunded on the date

of the participant's discharge or release from active duty or within 60 days of receipt of

notice by the Secretary of the participant's discharge or disenrollment. Refunds may be

made earlier in instances of hardship or other good reasons. Participants who stop their

enrollment from the program after discharge or release from active duty, contributions

will be refunded within 60 days of the receipt of their application.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 77 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 461.

By direction of the Secretary:

Kathleen M. Manwell,

Program Analyst,

VA Privacy Service,

Office of Privacy and Records Management,

Department of Veterans Affairs.

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